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MANUAL

OF

FAMILY PRAYERS.

1865.

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A MANUAL

OF

PLAIN, SHORT, AND INTELLIGIBLE

FAMILY PRAYERS,

FOR

THE LARGEST OR SMALLEST HOUSEHOLDS, SCHOOLS, AND OTHER DOMESTIC CONGREGATIONS.

"In such a language and order as is most easy and plain for the understanding both of the readers and hearers."
Preface to the Book of Common Prayer.

IN LARGE TYPE

BY

THE REV. GEORGE MUSGRAVE, M.A.,
B.N.C., Oxon.

BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA

LONDON:
HATCHARD & CO., 187, PICCADILLY.
1865.

138. g. 145.

HARRILD, PRINTER, LONDON.

PREFACE.

THE Editor of this little Manual hopes, in all sincerity, that its subject matter will *not* appear new or unfamiliar to those who, from childhood, have known the Word of God; inasmuch as the several Prayers herein comprised are but echoes (as, indeed, they ought to be) of that Scripture which is able to make men wise unto salvation.

"Sound speech that cannot be condemned," rather than any devotional phrases which could not be comprehended, has been consistently preferred in these compositions. The doctrine of God our Saviour is their constituent sub-

stance, and thus will the voice of the Gospel be heard among them.

The chief aim and object, therefore, of this publication at the present period are—

I. That the WEEK'S PRAYERS should enforce the vital truth of salvation through the one only Atonement made by Christ, and set forth the efficacy of His continual intercession, advocacy, and grace.

The like prominence is also given, as is most due, to the Sanctification of the Holy Spirit, the Divine Worker of all Holiness in the Creature.

II. That these forms of Supplication and Thanksgiving should inculcate the fear of God, and the faithful keeping of His commandments, "which is the whole duty of Man," by appealing to the memory, mind, and heart, and calling

forth that secret judgment of the soul which approves conduct that it knows to be good, and reproaches itself with that which it believes to be evil in the sight of Heaven.

III. That when the Morning and Evening devotions are ended, the humblest scholar of average intelligence in any household should be able to declare that he or she has thoroughly understood all that has been spoken.

This last consideration seemed so vitally important, that, at the Author's suggestion, one of his acquaintances, an Incumbent in the Diocese of Oxford, very kindly tested the whole of the Prayers, in manuscript, by reading them most carefully to his domestic servants, who declared them to be so plain as to need no explanation.

Where such comprehension is want-

ing, attendance on Family Prayers amounts to little else than a cold and formal compliance with a custom, and cannot rationally be expected to exercise any the slightest beneficial influence, either on the mind or heart:—the best solution, perhaps, that can be given to that oft-repeated query—"Whence is it that Family Prayers avail not, more than they do, to secure faithfulness in Service, and Practical Religion in our Homes?"

G. M.

Sussex Gardens, Hyde Park.

INTRODUCTORY OBSERVATIONS.

It will be seen that these Prayers were not intended to supersede the use of any of the beautiful Collects, or other short comprehensive portions of the Liturgy, or adaptations from them. The Collect for the Week may be added, at the discretion of the reader, immediately after each Prayer, as well as the Collect appended by the Author, for which any other, equally appropriate, may be substituted.

The average length of time occupied herein exceeds not six minutes—a limit which, of course, may be extended at will by the introduction of any supplementary Prayers of like character, or

which may favour the reading of a portion of Holy Scripture.

Comprehensive brevity, however, is imposed, in London especially, by those continually recurring interruptions of silence and privacy over which housekeepers have but slight control, rather than by the prevalent aversion of large or small households from prayer-meetings of longer duration. Another consideration has weighed with the Author:—that as no servant would be detained longer than these few minutes, the too commonly allowed excuse that "the work" below or upstairs would not admit of his or her attendance at Prayers, is hereby cut off. The same reasoning applies when the summons to Prayer is sounded at an earlier or later hour (as the case may be) than usual: as in the case, for instance, of starting on a journey, or of bed-time being postponed.

It is permissible to observe that even the short interval above mentioned,

WHOLLY CONSECRATED TO GOD, is more likely to work good than a longer one to which the mind consents not with equal complacency; while the thoughts are wandering, and the meditations of the heart soon cease to respond to the words of the mouth.

With this provision against weariness, unwillingness, and the weakness of even very *willing* spirits, a good hope is entertained that, even within the limited period here set apart for the united devotion of an assembling family, each worshipper will, by Divine grace, maintain that frame of mind which may render prayer, thanksgiving, and praise acceptable at the mercy-seat of the Most High, and receive that blessing which is promised to the same for the merits' sake of Christ.

It has not been considered necessary to introduce any special prayers for the days on which attendance may have been invited to the administration of the

Lord's Supper; as so many excellent "Aids to Devotion," "Companions to the Altar," etc., etc., have long since been familiar in almost all families duly mindful of this matter: a view of things already well cared for which applies equally to young persons preparing for Confirmation.

A similar reticence has been observed in respect of intercessory prayer for relatives, and many others for whom supplication should be made; it being presumed that these affectionate remembrances enter rather into private devotion than into Family Worship, many of the happiest influences of which are attained if it but tend to cherish a sense of Religion in every member of the Christian man's home, by beginning and ending each day with heartfelt acknowledgments of sin and weakness, and of meek and grateful dependence on the infinite goodness of God.

Christmas Eve,
1864.

MANUAL OF FAMILY PRAYERS.

SUNDAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY and merciful Lord, whose divine goodness hath brought us to the beginning of another Sabbath and week, we pray Thee help Thy servants redeemed with the precious blood of Christ, and give us grace to worship Thee in spirit and in truth; that we may not, by wandering thoughts and careless minds, be found to ask amiss, and call on our God in vain.

We acknowledge our faults, our many offences, and miserable infirmities. Day after day have we sinned against Heaven and before Thee, and are not worthy to

glorify Thy Holy Name; neither are we able, of our own will and strength, to obey and honour Thy righteous law.

Accept this humble confession, O Lord! For our Redeemer's sake—the only Saviour of sinners—be pleased to look down upon us thus drawing nigh unto Thee, and seeking pardon and peace.

May Thy Holy Spirit incline our hearts to humble ourselves before Thee in dutiful love and reverential worship, and to keep a conscience without offence.

Grant us grace to flee from all sin and wickedness; to check the rising of any bad thoughts—the utterance of any bad words—the doing of any bad deed. Thus may we live undefiled, and innocent from the great offence of wilfully breaking Thy commandments. Cause us to live more and more watchfully; to continue ever on our guard against the evil passions of our human nature; to look into our own hearts, and to pray for support

in our weakness, and for increase of true Christian faith.

[* And on this holy Day, especially, may we consider our ways, reflect on our past and present conduct, and take thought for spiritual improvement and growth in all godliness.

Though our hearts condemn us—though we deserve only Thy judgments against us—do Thou, O merciful God, have compassion upon us, and convert our souls, and grant us Thy peace.]

And give us grace duly to value our Christian privileges, and to feel the comfort of a Day of Rest—a Day of Prayer, Thanksgiving, and Praise—of instruction in righteousness. May we religiously remember that the time of our mortal life is most uncertain, and that now only is the

* These two paragraphs may be omitted on Easter Day, Whit Sunday, and Trinity Sunday; for which Festivals a supplementary Prayer will be found at the end of the week.

season of preparation for the hour of death and the Day of Judgment.

Lord! let Thy blessing descend on all our meditations on another and eternal world: May Thy mercies lighten upon us, and prepare us, day by day, for the Future of the Redeemed—for that eternal Sabbath, that blessed Rest which remaineth for the people of God, through Jesus Christ our Saviour. AMEN.

Collect.

MOST merciful Father, we beseech Thee to send upon all the Ministers of Thy Church Thy heavenly blessing, that Thy Word, spoken by their mouths, may have such success that it may never be spoken in vain. Grant, also, that we may have grace to hear and receive what they shall deliver out of Thy most holy Word, or agreeing with the same, as the means of our salvation; that in all our words and deeds we may seek Thy glory, and the increase of Thy kingdom.

And here we also uplift to Thee, O God, our supplication on behalf of the BISHOP of this Diocese, that he may be blessed with Thy grace, and, as a wise and faithful servant watching over the fold, use the authority given him to the salvation of many, and of his own soul.

Furthermore, we entreat Thee, Lord God, on behalf of all faithful Missionaries, travelling by land or by water, amid many and fearful dangers at the hand of Man, or in pestilential climates, intent on spreading the Gospel of the Lord among all nations. May they ever find Thee a very present help, defence, and consolation; and, having converted many to the true faith, may their recompense be in Thee, and their rest glorious, through Jesus Christ our Saviour. AMEN.

OUR FATHER, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily

bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. AMEN.

Now, unto Him that is able to keep us from falling, and to present us faultless before the presence of His glory, with exceeding joy; To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. AMEN.

SUNDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY GOD, Lord of the Sabbath, we come before Thee at the close of this holy Day with the renewed offering of prayer, thanksgiving, and praise, which we beseech Thee to accept at the Throne of Grace, only for the merits' sake of Jesus Christ our Lord, the Saviour of sinners that repent, the Redeemer of the souls

that seek Thee and strive to do Thy righteous Will.

Look down upon us, O merciful Father, and be very gracious unto us Thine unworthy worshippers, who confess our misdeeds and numberless imperfections, and with reverence and religious fear acknowledge Thee the eternally just and righteous God.

Thou, O Lord, hast, with long-suffering and forbearance, spared us. Thy bountiful love and goodness are shown towards us day by day; and all the workings of Thy divine providence teach us the sure mercies of Heaven, even to the unthankful and the evil. Do Thou who givest grace to the humble, and helpest all who pray to Thee from the heart, accept our petitions, and remember no more our sins to condemn us; but grant us the blessing of that peace which our souls need, and which Thou alone, O God, canst cause us to feel.

And that we may thus be comforted and supported each day of our life, do Thou enable us by Thy Holy Spirit to benefit, as we ever ought, by those instructions in pure and holy religion which we have had opportunity this day of receiving.

If we have failed to give due heed; if we have permitted our thoughts to wander; if we have neglected the word and the warning of Salvation, and suffered the Enemy of the Soul to take it away out of our hearts, do Thou, O God, forgive and help us to strive against this our infirmity, our offence, and deadly danger. Put it into our hearts to consider our happy and favoured state of existence, as living in a Christian country where the House of the Lord is set up on the right hand and on the left; where His holy worship, His ministry, His sacraments and services, are within the near reach, without money and without price, of all—of the lowliest as well as the highest in

the land—and the Gospel of our salvation is preached in all freedom and faithfulness.

LORD, make us grateful and steadfast worshippers of Thy holy Name, and grant that we may ever hold to that which is eternally good, and seek to profit thereby to our lives' end; and the longer we live the stronger may we become in resisting evil, and in abiding by all which we know to be right in the eyes of our God, through Jesus Christ our Saviour. AMEN.

Collect.

GRANT, we beseech Thee, Almighty God, that the words which we have heard this day with our outward ears may, through Thy grace, be so grafted inwardly in our hearts, that they may bring forth in us the fruit of good living, to the honour and praise of Thy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Or,

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast promised to

hear the petitions of them that ask in Thy Son's Name, we beseech Thee mercifully to incline Thine ears to us that have [this day] made our prayers and supplications unto Thee: and grant that those things which we have faithfully asked according to Thy will may effectually be obtained, to the relief of our necessity, and to the setting forth of Thy glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

OUR FATHER, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in Heaven. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. AMEN.

MAY the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among us, and remain with us always. AMEN.

MONDAY MORNING.

O Lord, our Heavenly Father, the God that heareth prayer, to Thee are we thus again drawing nigh: Again we call upon Thy holy Name, raised up, as we have been, from the bed of rest, and permitted thus to enjoy in health and safety the blessings of this life.

Guard and defend us, we pray Thee, through the hours of Light as in the Darkness; and fill our hearts with thankfulness, and keep us this day without sin.

May the remembrance of the Word of God abide in our minds and hearts; may the divine services of yesterday work good in us to-day and for ever, making the lessons of holiness, and that faith which cometh by hearing, the blessed means of our living and dying in Christ, —the End of our faith, and our Salvation.

Teach us, O Lord, by Thy Holy Spirit, the value and righteous use of time, that we may never be tempted to

waste it in unprofitable idleness, in folly, or sin. Keep us steadfast in the path of duty, persevering and faithful, true to Thee, to one another, and to ourselves, as Christians dwelling together in unity; and let not the enemy of our souls deprive us of any of our religious comfort, or take away our peace.

Help us, O Lord, when we are spiritually weak, and defend us when most we need Thy heavenly protection; so that neither the deceitfulness of our own hearts nor the snares of wickedness may prevail against us to turn aside good resolutions, or to tempt us into offence.

As day follows day, may we be found striving to do our best; dreading all that is wrong; loving and choosing all that we know to be blameless and right: for Thine eye beholdeth all things, and Thou, God, seest us.

Amidst all our lawful occupations and duties may it be ever in our minds to

keep a clear and peaceful conscience; to live holily and happily as those that are doing the will of God from their hearts, and glorifying Him by cheerful obedience in that state of life unto which it hath pleased Him to call them.

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to enlighten our understanding whereinsoever we need guidance; and turn our thoughts to all and everything that belongs to Christian belief and practice. Above all, fix them on the solemn truth that it is appointed unto all men once to die, and after this the judgment; that there is no repentance in that grave whereunto we are, each of us, hastening; nor is it given to us to know the number of our days, or to be certified how long we may have to live.

May our faith and hope be steadfast; and all our consolation be now and ever in Thee, O God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Collect.

ALMIGHTY GOD, the fountain of all wisdom, who knowest our necessities before we ask, and our ignorance in asking, we beseech Thee to have compassion upon our infirmities; and those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask, vouchsafe to give us, for the worthiness of Thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

OUR FATHER, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. AMEN.

GOD the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep us; and so fill us with all spiritual

benediction and grace that we may live unto Him in this life, and in the world to come may have life everlasting. AMEN.

MONDAY EVENING.

O MERCIFUL LORD, we beseech Thee to behold us, at this moment, with Thy divine favour, and, in compassion on Thy creatures, accept the prayers and praises with which we are now about to call upon Thy holy Name, in meek and thankful reliance on Thy promises declared unto all who come before Thee trusting only in Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Through Him alone, for whose sake Thou hearest sinners, we draw nigh to Thee our Heavenly Father, confessing all our unworthiness, and asking for that power to repent of sin which Thou only canst give.

Our consciences accuse, and our hearts condemn us, while Thy goodness

followeth us daily. We are unrighteous, one and all; leaving our many Christian duties unperformed, and doing only too often what we ought not to have done; but Thou, O Lord, Thou art God, eternally just and holy; and Thy righteousness is in all the world, governing and overruling with infinite wisdom, and with good overcoming evil.

Consider not our disobedience, to condemn us; nor let Thy just displeasure punish those offences which, through wilfulness or infirmity, neglect or ignorance, we have committed.

We acknowledge all our misdeeds, our follies, and our disregard of that one thing needful, the favour of God and our free salvation. Our hearts have not inclined to keep Thy law, nor have our thoughts been lifted up from time to time, in the midst of our lawful occupations and duties, to Thee, O God, our Creator, the Giver of all good; to Thee, the preserver of all mankind, and our Judge.

Grant, Lord, that Thy Holy Spirit may help our many infirmities; put us in mind when we are heedless, and purify and convert our souls; disposing us to all that is right, and worthy of the Name we bear as Christians; increasing in us true religion, and, by persuading us to prayer while we think on Thee, and to praise when we remember Thee, keeping us, without ceasing, in Thy faith, and fear, and love.

And, O Lord, our Saviour, who didst live and suffer in this world in our nature; who knowest our weakness, and the danger we have to dread when we fall into transgression, and permit either thought or wish to lead us astray, do Thou be our defender; leave us not; forsake us not; but deliver us from that Evil One.

Protect and save Thy servants now offering up their prayers, thanks, and praise; and may all our hope and trust be evermore in Thee. Grant us Thy peace.

Not as the world giveth, givest Thou. Thou who camest into that world to save sinners, have mercy upon us; pardon and deliver us from all our sins; confirm and strengthen us in obedience, gratitude, and holy love; and, whether we live or die, be Thou, O Lord Christ, an ever present help; our confidence, our hope, and our salvation. AMEN.

Collect.

ALMIGHTY GOD, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love Thee, and worthily magnify Thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

OUR FATHER, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in Heaven. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our tres-

passes, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil. AMEN.

Now, unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, be glory in the Church, by Christ Jesus, for evermore. AMEN.

TUESDAY MORNING.

O LORD most holy, O God most mighty, who searchest the heart of Man, and knowest ever what spirit he is of; judging the thoughts and inclinations, as the great Rewarder of Good and the sure Punisher of Evil, unto Thee we humbly draw nigh, conscious of many a grievous error and infirmity, and acknowledging all those sins of which we supplicate Thy forgiveness.

Behold us, Heavenly Father, thus again assembling together as believers in one only Saviour, through whose infi-

nite merits alone the infinite guilt of Thy creatures is atoned for and forgiven.

That we may from the heart repent, and live in the practice of all which we know to be right, and just, and good, and our bounden duty, do Thou, O God, make holy all our thoughts, and strengthen our resolutions to do well, by Thy Holy Spirit; and grant us grace to remember and to reflect upon this great and most solemn truth, that where there is no striving against sin—no endeavour to live righteously—there is no pardon, nor acceptance with God; for Thou punishest all who mock Thee with the prayer of insincerity; and the hope of the hypocrite shall perish.

May the undeserved, but never ceasing, favour of our Lord and Saviour, and the warnings of Thy Spirit, dispose our minds to obedience and to perseverance in all careful living.

May we, by this heavenly help of our infirmities, be enabled to do our duty in

all faithfulness, and to keep a conscience free from wilful offence. When we are tempted, do Thou, O Lord, be our strength and safety, and in mercy save and deliver us. When we are troubled by the many cares, or visited by the afflictions, of this mortal life, be Thou our comforter; and enable us, in all that resignation and meekness of which Thou Thyself wast our bright and shining example, to bear and to suffer patiently.

Whereinsoever we are ignorant of our real good, and of that which would surely make for our happiness and peace, do Thou, O God, teach and enlighten our minds, and give us a right understanding in all things.

Where we are apt to be ignorant, negligent, or indifferent as to our spiritual state, do Thou, of Thine exceeding mercy, warn us, enlighten, and awaken us, that we may not be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin, but take timely heed in the day that now is, ere that solemn day

cometh when our trial shall be ending, and our fate shall be for ever fixed.

O holy Lord! turn not away from our prayer, but turn away from our sins. Be with us in the day of life and health, while by Thy grace we have power to act, to fulfil our duty, and to do Thy work; that we may be ready to depart hence, and be found watching, as servants humbly waiting to meet their Lord, when the hour of death shall summon us to judgment. May we all of us then be found cherishing a sure hope in Thee.

Save us, good Lord, and preserve us in Thy faith and fear, that living or dying we may be found in Christ, the brightness of Thy glory—our spirits' joy and consolation. AMEN.

Collect.

LORD of all power and might, who art the Author and Giver of all good things, graft in our hearts the love of Thy Name, increase in us true religion,

nourish us with all goodness, and of Thy great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Or,

O GOD, the Protector of all that trust in Thee, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy, increase and multiply upon us Thy mercy, that Thou being our Ruler and Guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we finally lose not the things eternal. Grant this, O Heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our Lord. AMEN.

OUR FATHER, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil; For Thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. AMEN.

THE LORD bless us and keep us; the

Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon us, and give us peace, now and for evermore. AMEN.

TUESDAY EVENING.

O ETERNAL GOD, our Heavenly Father, whose divine providence hath watched over us during the day now ended, and thus permitted us to seek in health and safety our needful rest, we, Thy unworthy worshippers, draw nigh to the throne of grace, and humbly beseech Thy blessing.

Accept our prayers, our thanksgivings, our praises, the confession of our sinfulness, the acknowledgment of our weaknesses, and of our entire dependence on Thee, the Giver of all good, the Judge of all men. For our Saviour's only sake, whose infinite merits can alone obtain the pardon of infinite guilt, receive us, O Lord, and with Thy divine compassion look down upon us thus humbly calling upon Thee; in mercy forgive those

transgressions by which, in wilfulness or through infirmity, we may this day have offended Thee.

Pardon our human frailty, pardon the sin that chiefly besets and overcomes us, and protect us from the Enemy of the Soul, and from all temptation to evil; that while we are spared by Thy forbearance, and nourished by Thy long-continuing goodness, we may strive successfully to walk in all the commandments of our Lord blameless, and at length, for His eternal merits' sake, be presented faultless before the presence of Thy glory.

Grant that Thy Holy Spirit may awaken our hearts to a religious sense of our mortal weakness and insufficiency, and incline us to consider our ways; to judge ourselves, our thoughts, and actions, by all that we are taught in Thy pure and holy law:—

And do Thou, O God, preserve us from self-deceit, and from that spiritual

ignorance which would keep us blind to our faults and our vileness. May we live in the Spirit, and walk in the Spirit, practising those virtues, and cherishing and showing forth those graces against which there is no law :—

In all Christian love, joy, and peace; with long-suffering and gentleness; dealing with each other as we would be dealt by; in all goodness and faith, meekness and temperance, maintaining our course from day to day as sincere believers in the Saviour, may we do Thy divine Will from the heart; that, when He cometh to judge the world in righteousness, He may acknowledge us to be His indeed, and welcome us into the joy of our Lord.

And that we may the more devotedly and cheerfully follow Him who was our divine and perfect Example in all things, we beseech Thee that our hearts may be grounded and settled in that faith which works by love, and brings forth proofs and fruits with patience. May we be

ready to do and to suffer, to take up our cross daily, to bear and forbear, to restrain, check, and religiously govern our tempers and all those passions which remind us, only too often and too grievously, of the weakness of our mortal nature. Suffer us not, O God, to be overcome of evil, but help us to overcome evil with good, and to learn of Jesus the Blessed, who was meek and lowly of heart, and who endured, even unto death, so great contradiction of sinners, and sufferings, beyond all Man's knowledge, both in body and soul.

Even so be it, O Lord Christ, who art our strength, mighty to defend and to save; our Hope, even unto the end, and our Redeemer. AMEN.

Collect.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who art always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than either we desire or deserve, pour down upon

us the abundance of Thy mercy, forgiving us those things whereof our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord. AMEN.

OUR FATHER, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in Heaven. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. AMEN.

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. AMEN.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

Blessed Lord, Creator and Preserver of all, Thy guardian care and ever-watchful providence have permitted us thus to enter upon the life of another day, and on all those occupations and duties in which Thy Word exhorts us to be found faithful, while we rely on Thy fatherly goodness for health, strength, and safety.

Grant us Thy grace, we humbly beseech Thee, rightly to use our time, and in all good conscience to employ those powers of mind and body which are gifts from Thee, and ought ever to be used to Thine honour and glory; not in the ways of folly, or in that dangerous idleness which leads to temptation and sin.

While we are spared may we be grateful for our existence, earnest and conscientious in obeying Thy holy Will,

thoughtful for our life's ending, and intent on that preparation to stand before Thee which may enable us hereafter to give an answer of the hope that is in us, and to depart in peace.

Suffer us not to grow indifferent as to things spiritual and eternal, to the solemn claims, calls, and duties of religion, or to the real state of that never-dying soul which is to abide Thy judgment.

By Thy Holy Spirit deliver us from the dangers of thoughts, wishes, or recollections, which we well know to be only too full of evil, and sure to disturb and hurt the mind. Impress us, O God, with that reverential dread of Thy just anger against all corruption, sin, and wickedness,—with that humble, hearty, desire to be found faithful and pure and good,—which may secure our rest and quietness, and make for our peace all the days of our life.

Dispose us to *practise* all that we have been *taught* of Christian belief and duty,

and grant us grace to seek our happiness in steadfast obedience—as a confirmed habit—to Thy commandments, while in mercy Thou inclinest our hearts to keep those laws in which to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

And, because we are in our very nature infirm and frail, and only too liable to err and offend, we beseech Thee, good Lord, to increase in us the desire and the power to pray, while we keep in mind that Thou knowest what is in Man, and all his thoughts before he utters them; and that Thou considerest not our feeble, imperfect *words*, but the heartfelt *sincerity* of our petitions. Such prayers may we offer up fervently, frequently, and freely, with that sense of such a blessed privilege and truly Christian enjoyment which may continually increase the desire of our grateful souls to hold this communion with Thee our Father in Heaven while we are yet upon earth; that when the hour cometh which

is to remind us that this is not our everlasting home and place of rest, our spirits may adore Thee in the Paradise of God, and rejoice evermore in Christ our Lord and Saviour. AMEN.

Collect.

O GOD, the strength of all them that put their trust in Thee, mercifully accept our prayers; and because, through the weakness of our mortal nature, we can do no good thing without Thee, grant us the help of Thy grace, that, in the keeping of Thy commandments, we may please Thee, both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

O LORD our God, by whom kings reign and empires and nations prosper, receive our prayers on behalf of our Sovereign Lady VICTORIA set over us by Thy grace and providence to be our Queen. Trusting in Thy goodness, and protected by Thy power, may she continue before Thee in health, peace, and

honour, and with all the Royal Family enjoy the love of her people, and glorify Thee through a long and happy reign, in Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

OUR FATHER, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it, is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. AMEN.

THE LORD vouchsafe to bless and keep us. May He be the strength of our life, the guardian of our peace, and our portion for ever. AMEN.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

LORD, we beseech Thee, look down from Heaven on high on us Thy unworthy worshippers, who humble our-

selves under Thy mighty hand, and draw nigh with faith and hope unto the throne of Grace, meekly trusting in those precious promises, that however few shall gather together in Thy Name, in penitence for sin, and supplication for mercy, Thou wilt hear and heed their prayers. Behold us, O God, at the close of another day of life—the objects of Thy providential care—the souls Thou hast preserved and delivered in many a danger by us unseen; and blessed with many mercies we have not acknowledged. Mark not our offences with the judgment they deserve, neither deal with *us* as we have acted by *Thee;* for, how many hours have we lived through, and God was not in all our thoughts! Nor have we called on Thee to sanctify our occupations, or cast our care on that Most High and Holy One who day and night careth for *us*. We humbly beseech Thee to make us more sensible of our neglect, and more deeply concerned for our con-

dition of mind and soul, as accountable beings who know not what to-morrow may bring forth, and who, in the midst of life, are in death, surrounded by dangers and subject to sudden sickness, suffering, and sorrows we at this moment know not of, and which Thy all-wise Providence may inflict or withhold as seemeth Thee good. Lord, keep us watchful, prayerful, and humble; keep us in trusting faith and religious submission to Thy will. Have compassion on the faults and failings that beset us in that path of obedience Thou hast commanded us to walk in; and, forgiving us the neglect of so many things that belong to our peace, vouchsafe to teach and enlighten us by Thy Holy Spirit in all that concerns the safety of the immortal soul, that we may not be willingly ignorant, nor sinfully blind to our faults and our dangers, now in the time of this mortal life and trial.

Give us grace to search both memory

and conscience—and this, daily—condemning ourselves in all we detect as wrong, and striving to amend our ways in whatever respect they are opposed to true religion and virtue. Thus, even thus, may we acquaint ourselves with Thee as the God of compassion and love, that forgiveth iniquity, and offereth His free salvation to all that from the heart repent, and turn to Him right humbly.

Incline our minds, O Lord, to a grateful sense of Thy long-continuing bounties and blessings, and cause us to reflect on our blameable love of the trifles and perishing good of this evil world of folly and sin—a world full of deceit and wrong, of vanity and vexation of spirit. Let not our hearts be set upon it to our sorrow, nor our thoughts sink down into that carnal mind which is enmity against Thee, but rise to higher and holier joys and consolations—to happiness which shall know no change, and to pleasures at Thy right hand for ever-

more, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Collect.

O LORD, from whom all good things do come, grant to us, Thy humble servants, that by Thy holy inspiration we may *think* those things that be good, and by Thy merciful guiding may *perform* the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

OUR FATHER, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in Heaven. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. AMEN.

GOD the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, the Holy, Blessed, and Glorious Trinity, bless, preserve and keep us, now and evermore. AMEN.

THURSDAY MORNING.

O LORD our heavenly Father, sanctify unto us the morning light, and our continuing life. O Lord God, Thou hast dealt graciously with us, the creatures of Thine hand, unto this day, bearing and forbearing, full of compassion for our infirmities, withholding Thy just judgments on our sins.

We pray to Thee with humble petitions, and beseech grace to come into Thy divine presence with our whole heart, while we call our ways to remembrance, and make this confession before Thee.

Thine ever-watchful care and providence have guarded us in the night darkness: our safety while we slept, our health and living strength at this moment, have been granted by Thy goodness; and in Thee we live and move and have our being. Call off our thoughts awhile from the things of this world, and fix our attention on the solemn duty

of glorifying Thee by submission of ourselves as sinners, and honouring Thee with our heartfelt praise.

And do Thou, O Lord Jesus, who knowest what is in Man, who art touched with the feeling of our infirmities, and ever pitiest them; who wast tempted in all points like as we are; vouchsafe to plead for us before that Throne of Grace where the Father heareth Thy voice always; and help us Thy servants whom Thou hast redeemed with Thy precious blood. Cherish in our minds the love of all Good, the dread of all Evil—the desire to know, and to obey, and to honour God; and confirm our hopes of victory over sin.

Leave us not to the weakness of our human nature, nor let the designing Enemy of Man's soul lead any one of us into wilful offence against the sacred law of our God. Assist us with that divine help which may enable us to overcome all the difficulties that may beset us in

this life of trial. In trouble, may Thy good Spirit be our Comforter; in danger, stretch forth Thine hand to save and deliver us; in prosperity, keep us humble; in affliction, patient:—devoutly remembering that all Thy judgments are right, and that whatever befals us is and must ever be for our good, and for the best.

Be this the confidence of our Christian faith; may these feelings and convictions evermore prevail to keep alive pure and undefiled religion in our hearts; so that, whatever be our lot in life, we may hold fast to that lowly, firm, and faithful trust in the mercy and loving kindness of our God, which may cause all things to work together for our spiritual peace, and incline us to worship and bless Thee the gracious Lord and Father of all, through Jesus Christ our Saviour, who, with the all-perfect example of His most holy life, taught, also, that Man should not cease to pray, but ask of Thee, nothing doubting. Lord,

hear us evermore, when in this confidence we call upon Thee, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Collect.

O GOD of all goodness, bless us Thy servants, and sow the seed of eternal life in our hearts, that whatsoever in Thy Holy Word we shall profitably learn we may indeed fulfil. Look, O Lord, mercifully upon us from Heaven, and bless us; that we, obeying Thy will, and alway being in safety under Thy protection, may abide in Thy love unto our lives' end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

OUR FATHER, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil: For Thine is

the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. AMEN.

GOD be merciful unto us and bless us, and show us the glorious light of His countenance—the glory of Christ the Saviour, and of the Holy Spirit the Comforter, now and evermore. AMEN.

THURSDAY EVENING.

LET Thy merciful ears, O God, be open to our prayers. Oh! hide not Thyself from our petitions, Thou that willest not the everlasting destruction of sinners, but that all men should turn unto Thee and be saved. Receive this our Evening Offering of praise for the bounties and blessings bestowed upon us since the morning light; while from the heart we acknowledge all our unworthiness, and entreat of Thee that power to repent of sin, and that steadfastness in obedience which Thy pardoning love alone can grant.

We know, O Lord, that all Thy judgments are right; that Thy commandments are not grievous, and that the law of our Lord is holy, and just, and good, and *we* are altogether unrighteous, and take not that heed to our ways which alone shall bring peace at the last; neither are our minds set upon doing Thy will from day to day, nor our consciences clear when they are judged.

Receive us, we beseech Thee, thus again presenting ourselves, in soul and body, before Thy divine Majesty, and praying that neither the offences of this day now ending, nor the transgressions of our life past, may be noted in the book of Thy remembrance to condemn us; but, for our Saviour's only all-atoning sake, may be blotted out, and our guilty souls washed pure in His most precious blood.

When Thou givest peace, who shall afflict? And when Thy protecting grace and favour are bestowed upon us, of

whom shall we be afraid? Oh! be Thou our support, our strength, and consolation. In all our trials of faith and firmness, in all our disturbing troubles and anxious cares, in all our fears and griefs, be Thou, O Lord, our hope and consolation, and our deliverer; for Thy promise is sure, and Thou wilt never leave nor forsake the man that putteth his humble trust in Thee, knowing that of Thee cometh his safety and his salvation.

May the remembrance of our health and security through the hours of the day past move us to call upon Thee in the spirit of a right mind, conscious as we must always be of our unworthiness to be the objects of Thy never-ceasing care, yet ever depending on it as the creatures of Thy hand, and indebted to Thee for every enjoyment here on Earth, and for the hope of Heaven hereafter. Oh! be Thou with us in our last waking thoughts. Watch over us, in Thy merciful goodness, during the dark hours of night and

unconsciousness, as Thou hast guarded us since the break of day, and let not the thought be absent from our minds that an hour must come, known only to Thee, O God, when we must lie on the bed of death, and make our grave among those who came up and were cut down like a flower, and flourished only as the grass of the field. Lord, may we fall asleep in Thee, and enter with Thy faithful ones into the promised rest. AMEN.

Collect.

O LORD and Heavenly Father, we, Thy humble servants, entreat Thy divine goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of prayer, praise, and thanksgiving, most humbly beseeching Thee to grant, that by the merits and death of our Saviour Christ, and through faith in His blood, we may obtain forgiveness of our sins; and we pray that this our bounden duty and service may be accepted by Thee for the only sake of the same, our Lord and our Redeemer. AMEN.

OUR FATHER, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in Heaven. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. AMEN.

GOD the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep us and all that call upon the Lord in humble faith, now and evermore. AMEN.

FRIDAY MORNING.

O MERCIFUL LORD and Heavenly Father, bountiful in Thy goodness, patient and long-suffering in Thy judgments, we meekly beseech Thee to raise our thoughts and affections beyond this earth which is to pass away, to that eternal world to

which we are one and all hastening, conscious that we are mortal, and that it is appointed unto all men once to die, and to appear before Thee in that day when the dead, small and great, shall stand in the presence of God.

Look down upon us, now calling on Thy holy Name, and grant that we may live from day to day, mindful of these certain and solemn truths, remembering that now is the time of our trial, and the only preparation for our future. May we die the death of the righteous, and be numbered with Thy saints in the kingdom and glory of God.

Save us, O Lord, from the dangers of folly and sin; from all that might cause us to live in ignorance or in neglect of our real condition as beings that are to enter eternity; and leave us not to walk after the desires of our own hearts, which are but too sure to deceive us; nor let evil counsel or bad example, in that world which lieth around us in

wickedness, draw us aside from the straight path of duty in which alone we shall keep a conscience without offence and without reproach.

May Thy law, O God, rule and prevail in our hearts, that our goings may not slide. May the warnings of Thy Holy Spirit persuade us to keep innocency, and to take continual heed to the thing that is right; and do Thou in mercy order our goings, day after day, and make our ways acceptable to Thyself.

We are taught in Thy Holy Word that Thou wilt never leave nor forsake those who, in sorrow for sin, and in the assurance of humble faith, draw nigh unto Thee with prayer for help in the season of doubt and distress, of danger or temptation. Thou, our Heavenly Father, wilt grant Thy divine guidance and the comfort of Thy sanctifying Spirit to all who, distrusting their own strength and the arm of flesh, turn unto Thee, knowing in whom they have be-

lieved, and that in their hope they shall never be confounded.

May we evermore rest thus in Thee, O God; and be Thou very gracious, and incline Thine ear to us, confessing at this moment our sins, and acknowledging with sorrow our shortcomings.

Confirm and strengthen us in the love and practice of all goodness; our duty to Thee being our delight, and our duty towards our neighbour the desire of our hearts; and thus may we know and feel that spiritual peace which the world cannot give;—that joy which no man taketh from us.

O merciful Saviour, never man spake as Thou spakest! Who teacheth like Thee? Guide our feet in the ways of pleasantness and into the paths of peace. Thou art the light of the world, and he that followeth Thee shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life. Lift Thou up the favour of Thy countenance upon us, while humbly we trust in

Thee, and cause us joyfully to know that we are, and ever shall be, Thine, O Lord, our Strength and our Salvation. AMEN.

Collect.

O GOD, who knowest us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always remain firm and steadfast; grant to us such strength and protection as may support us in all dangers, and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

OUR FATHER, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, The power, And the glory, For ever and ever. AMEN.

THE LORD of Heaven be our defence, and keep our souls. The Lord preserve our going forth and our coming in, this day and for evermore. AMEN.

FRIDAY EVENING.

O GOD, the gracious and merciful Lord, by whose Word the Heavens were made, and in whose creating hand man took his beginning and became a living soul, gifted with power of mind and reason to obey and worship and honour Thee everlastingly,—Unto Thee, our compassionate Maker, we draw nigh, beseeching that Thy grace may dispose our minds and hearts to humble confession and grateful praise; protected as we are through every hour of our existence by Thy merciful Providence, and nourished and preserved, notwithstanding all our unworthiness, from day to day, in this our mortal condition of weakness and frailty, while all our hope is in Thee.

We beseech Thee to save and defend us from all the enemies of our peace, and to remove from us all those hindrances to our improvement in religious faith and practice, which either our own wilful neglect, or the evil that lieth around us in this world, may at any time have caused, even when our minds were set on the thing that is right.

As in the midst of life we are liable to death, so, Lord, in all our endeavours to obey Thy laws, and in all the services of our bounden duty, we feel our many infirmities, and are continually found wanting when we should be proving our faith by our works, and not be provoking our Judge to punish us asservants who knew their heavenly Master's will, and did it not.

Have compassion on us, O merciful God; increase our faith; help Thou our unbelief; enlighten our ignorance; confirm our resolutions to amend, and by Thy Holy Spirit renew our hearts unto

righteousness, that we may so live here in this world as to become more and more fit to leave it, and to enter into the presence of the Most High.

May that knowledge of Thee, and that reverential worship of Thy divine Majesty, which ought ever to be our delight upon earth, be continued even unto the end, to be perfected in Heaven; and do Thou, O Lord Jesus Christ, by whose grace alone we call upon, and receive from, the Most High God, vouchsafe to aid us by Thy continual help and favour, and keep our hearts and minds in holy faith, fear, and love, which may ever incline us rightly to perform our duties here, and fit us for the glorious company of Thy saints hereafter.

Incline us by Thy good Spirit to follow Thine own most pure and perfect example in all things. Enable us to regulate our thoughts as in the sight of a heart-searching God. Thou, God, seest us; Thou art not far from every

one of us. In all our wishes, and in all our actions, seen and unseen, may we be found blameless, and glorify our heavenly Father as Christians in deed and not in name only, and as dear children walking in Thy truth. Make us to love that service of God which is perfect freedom and a glorious liberty; to give earnest and careful heed to the teaching of the Gospel of salvation, and to remember, with profit to our souls, the Scriptural lessons of holiness. This doing, may we succeed in conquering every inclination which our consciences condemn, and resist the Evil One, and rejoice in every victory over sin, and at the last receive that blessing which Thou hast reserved for all who shall be found faithful even unto death, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Collect.

O ALMIGHTY LORD, and everlasting God, vouchsafe, we beseech Thee, to direct, sanctify, and govern, both our

hearts and bodies, in the ways of Thy laws, and in the works of Thy commandments, that through Thy most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. AMEN.

OUR FATHER, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in Heaven. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. AMEN.

OUR help standeth in the Name of the Lord. Blessed be the Name of the Lord from this time forth for evermore. AMEN.

SATURDAY MORNING.

Most gracious God, we bow in lowliness before Thee, acknowledging Thine endless mercies, and the guiltiness of our sins.

With prayer and supplication we seek that pardon which may bring rest unto our souls, and restore us to the loving favour of our God. With sorrow for the past, with hope for the future, we meekly beseech Thee to turn our hearts, and incline them to duteous faith and fear, and to give us that will and power to repent which by our own natural strength we cannot feel, but which Thou, O God, by the grace of Christ, hast promised to bless us with, in answer to the petition of humble faith.

We acknowledge that we depend, day after day, on Thy heavenly goodness; in our human weakness we fall into

many faults: "Who can tell how oft he offendeth?" We forget the numberless blessings we enjoy, and we are careless when we should be found watching against the entrance of sin into the mind and heart, and against weariness in well-doing.

Give us grace, O Lord, to remember that Thou hast called us to salvation, and to those many mansions in Thy Father's House—even the Heaven where Thou art in glory—which are promised to the good and faithful that die forgiven for their all-atoning Saviour's sake. Never may we cease to prepare for this blessed change; never may our hearts grow cold, or our hope and trust begin to fail. Do Thou, O Lord, keep us steadfast and true, having always a good conscience and a sure hope. Maintain in our minds a solemn respect and reverence for the nobleness, the sacredness of truth, and a steady regard of those things which are honest in the

sight of all men—just and pure conduct, and worthy of all praise—and give us grace to *think* upon these things; and, as we value the love of the God of all peace, and our truest comfort in this world, may we strive to *do* them.

We will trust only in Thee, O Lord our Saviour, for Thou canst enable us to do all, while Thou art strengthening us.

And because we know and confess our infirmities, we pray Thee that Thou wilt deliver us from all those unruly passions, blameable inclinations, and foolish thoughts, which might cause us to offend, and to bring heaviness and sorrow into our souls. Save us from that disposition of mind which would unfit us for the service we owe to our great and gracious God, and by Thy Holy Spirit do Thou so purify our hearts that we may really and truly feel the *comfort* of religion, and all the consolations which abound in Christian belief and hope.

May the sense of heavenly mercies

always have effect in the ordering of our daily life, leading us to think and act conscientiously, and to follow the good examples of Thy servants already departed in Thy faith and fear, to enter into their promised rest.

Thus may we ever be redeeming our time, and living unto Thee, O God, till, having been found obedient even unto death, we appear before Him who knoweth them that are His, and will give them, for His own eternal merits' sake, the unfading crown of everlasting life. AMEN.

Collect.

O GOD, who hast prepared for them that love Thee such good things as pass Man's understanding, pour into our hearts such love towards Thee, that we, loving Thee above all things, may obtain Thy promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

OUR FATHER, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. AMEN.

BLESSED be the Lord God, and blessed be the Name of His Majesty for ever; and let every one of us say "Amen!" "Amen!"

SATURDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY GOD, whose gracious protection and long-continuing goodness have permitted us thus to reach the end of the present week, and to join in prayer and praise before we enter into the silence and sleep of night, we beseech Thee to look upon us with the eye of Thy mercy,

and to receive the offering of our thanks with the confession of our unworthiness, and to grant us Thy pardon while we acknowledge all our sins.

And may this humble confession, made with our *lips*, proceed from faith in our *hearts*, that we may find rest to our *souls* as surely as we hope and need to enjoy rest in the body.

For many an error and many a fault have we to ask forgiveness. Another week has passed away, and again are our consciences reminding us of much left undone that ought to have been done in spiritual obedience, and of much done that ought not, while we were wandering from that path in which our feet should have been made sure and steadfast.

Oh! be Thou gracious unto Thine offending creatures, and by Thy Holy Spirit convince us of that solemn truth that, according to our CONDUCT here, must be our CONDITION hereafter; and may the warnings of the same Spirit

lead us to give more earnest heed to the things that concern our safety, and more frequent proofs of a saving faith, by resisting temptation, by overcoming evil, by checking all blameable desires, and by practising all those virtues in which to *live holily* is the sure preparation to *die happily*.

Call off our minds from needless cares, and from being fixed on the things of this world only. Free us from those thoughts that can never lead to good.

May the ending of this day remind us of the beginning of another Sabbath, and that THE LORD'S DAY is at hand; and may we have grace so to honour and reverence it, that we may neither be far from God while we live, nor far off from Him when we die.

If our hearts be not with Thee, O Lord, may they be changed, softened, and converted! If they be still unholy, may they, by Thy Holy Spirit, be sanctified. Incline them to all the duties we

owe to Thee, and to all the obedience which glorifies God by the faithful keeping of His commandments.

May it be our continual desire to know more and more of the *comforts* of religion; of answers to prayer; of deliverances from spiritual evil and danger: May our tempers and dispositions, our love of all that is pure, and good, and holy, and our dread of all that is wicked, prepare us, while we are in this world, for living with angels and blessed spirits made perfect, in heaven; and thus may we ever be inclined to follow holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.

But, O God, Thou knowest we are but dust, and that we are to return to it. We beseech Thee to have compassion on the weakness of our mortal nature, and to help us in all our endeavours to live without wilful offence, and to keep a conscience pure and undefiled. Therefore, on Thee will we rely,

and unto Thee lift up our voice; that our unworthiness be no more considered, nor our sins remembered, but that we may be accepted as believers that repent, and as penitents that have found grace for the infinite merits' sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN. Our.....

Collect.

LIGHTEN our darkness, we beseech Thee, O Lord; and by Thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of Thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. AMEN.

GOD the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit bless, preserve, and keep us, and all that call upon the Lord in humble faith, now and evermore. AMEN.

CHRISTMAS DAY.

O LORD our Heavenly Father, who, for the saving of the souls of all mankind that were for ever lost by sin, didst grant that our blessed Lord JESUS CHRIST should, though He was GOD, become MAN, and be born into this world, to live in our nature, but without spot of sin, in holy innocence and perfect divinity, GLORIFIED be Thy Name for this inconceivable mystery of Divine Mercy and Goodness! GLORY be to Thee, O GOD, in the highest!

O LORD CHRIST, who, fulfilling the heavenly will and counsels of GOD THE FATHER, didst, as the first born of Mary the Virgin, of Nazareth, called of all generations "THE BLESSED," condescend to be subject to Thine earthly parents, and to become our example in all things, holy, harmless, undefiled, and separate from sinners, that we should follow Thy steps until we attain even unto Thine

everlasting kingdom, GLORIFIED BE THY NAME! Thou art GOD, and beside Thee there is no Saviour.

O GOD OUR SAVIOUR, who, for the joy that was set before Thee of delivering Man, and reconciling sinners unto their God, didst offer up, in Thyself, upon the Cross, a divine Sacrifice and Atonement for the guilt of the whole world, that all who have sinned, or should ever sin, might not perish everlastingly, but obtain forgiveness and redemption through faith in the eternal merits of Thy most precious blood which cleanseth from all iniquity, GLORY, Honour, Might, Majesty, and Dominion be unto THEE, who now sittest at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father!

And do THOU, O Lord Jesus, vouchsafe unto us Thy grace and guidance, and change our hearts and convert our souls unto Thyself, that we may, as new creatures, be born again unto Righteousness, and seek only how we may please
e, and attain unto those glorious

promises which, as on this blessed day, were made to all believers.

May we, by our glad and grateful obedience, show forth our dutiful love towards Thee, O God; and as the multitude of the heavenly host praised Thee in Bethlehem, so may we glorify Thee in our hearts, by living and dying unto Him who is the Hope and the Joy of all the ends of the earth; 'Our Righteousness,' our Sanctification, and Redemption. He that glorieth this day, let him glory in the Lord.

Our Father, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore.

THE LAST EVENING OF THE YEAR.

O LORD, our Heavenly Father, Almighty, Everlasting God, whose divine mercy hath permitted us to reach the close of another year, in the enjoyment of all those faculties and powers of mind and body which are gifts from Thee, the great Giver of all good, HUMBLY do we pray Thee to look down upon us in this hour, and by Thy Holy Spirit to sanctify to our souls the numberless bounties and blessings which Thou grantest to the unworthy children of men.

While thousands have died in youth, and tens of thousands in the prime of their age, behold! *we* have been spared, we have numbered the days of another twelvemonth; and, after passing through dangers beyond number, by us unseen and unknown, we are here gathered together in the home of safety, health, and peace.

O Lord God of our salvation, receive our prayers, our thanksgivings, and our praise: Cause us to think, with serious self-examination, on the past; to consider what our deserts are; how mercifully Thou hast dealt with us, and what solemn reason we have to be grateful for all the opportunities that may still be granted us for proving sincere repentance and active faith, by keeping Thy righteous commandments, and honouring Thee by blameless lives in the year which, in a few hours, will open upon us.

May these seasons for reflection upon CONDUCT be for our lasting benefit as Christians.

May we correct ourselves in all known faults and detected infirmities, and strive to break off all blameable habits: May we conquer every failing or folly to which we have, in days past, given way, and so do our utmost to keep a conscience free from reproach, and our hearts right before Thee, O God.

Thus shall we number our days as those who are growing in that wisdom which is from above, in the fear of the Lord, and in faith and love therewith; and whether we live, or whether we die, shall be found in Christ Jesus at the last, having sought Thy heavenly kingdom as the end, object, and reward of humble, striving faith; and obtained the inheritance of Thy saints, to behold Thee in Thine eternal glory, and to be for ever with the Lord. AMEN.

OUR FATHER, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in Heaven. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. AMEN.

MAY the blessing of God Almighty abide on us: May we close our eyes this

night in devout reliance on His grace and mercy; and may the morn of to-morrow find us eager and rejoicing to do His will, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

THE FIRST DAY OF THE YEAR.

TO BE ADDED TO THE PRAYER OF THE MORNING.

O THOU in whom we all live and have our being, All-merciful and mighty God, in whose sight a thousand years are but as yesterday, and who art from everlasting, before Thee, our great Creator, we humbly present ourselves, in soul and body, with the grateful offering of our prayers, thanksgivings, glorification, and praise, at the beginning of another year of our existence, on which, while praying for power to repent of all past sin and beseeching grace to do well, we ask Thy heavenly blessing.

May this New Year find us new

creatures in Christ. May old things have passed away; (the errors and follies of time now gone by;) and all things become new to us, as to believers with new hopes of holiness and happiness, new desires after good, new joys in obedience and in that service of God which is perfect freedom and a delight.

May every good resolution put into our hearts by Thy Holy Spirit be faithfully performed, and every wish to amend what was amiss be blest with success.

May we pray to Thee, O God, more frequently and more devoutly; May we praise Thee more gratefully, and obey Thee more conscientiously and thankfully. And do Thou graciously be pleased to help us in all our endeavours to act up to our religious knowledge, and to enjoy our Christian privileges; and cause us to remember that an hour must come at last when our eyes are to open, not on a new *year*, but on a new *world* and state of being in which we are never again to

die; but live, if we have been found faithful even unto death, for ever with our God.

Oh! great and glorious reward of dutiful and righteous obedience in Christ our Saviour! Blessed is the man, in that day, that hath not walked in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stood in the way of sinners!* Lord! give us grace to be able to stand in the judgment: May we die the death of the righteous, and may our last end be like his. AMEN.

OUR FATHER, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil; For Thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. AMEN.

* The Psalms of this day begin with these words.

God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep us, and so fill us with all spiritual benediction and grace, that we may live unto Him in this life, and in the world to come may have life everlasting. Amen.

GOOD FRIDAY.

TO BE USED BEFORE THE PRAYER FOR FRIDAY MORNING.

O Merciful God, who, when all mankind lay under the awful curse and condemnation of Thy most just judgment on sin, didst in mercy and love ordain one only sacrifice and atonement for the guilt of the whole world, in Christ Jesus, Thine Only Son, both God and Man; and, in obedience to whose Heavenly Will, the same our blessed Lord and Saviour did die in agony upon the Cross, that by that precious blood-shedding He might save us from everlasting misery and death, and exalt us to eternal life,

Have mercy upon us! have mercy upon us! As our compassionate Father in Heaven, draw us nearer and nearer to Thyself in heartfelt, humble, and devout gratitude for this Thine inconceivable and infinite goodness, and cherish in our souls such an awful dread of all sin and wickedness, and such an earnest and continual desire to abide by all that we know to be right and good, and well-pleasing in Thy sight, as may bring peace to our souls in the hour that now is, and in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, blessed for evermore. AMEN.

EASTER DAY.

TO BE USED BEFORE THE PRAYER FOR SUNDAY MORNING.

O GOD the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, who, as on this day, didst raise from the dead our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, God of God, Light

of Light, even Him who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from Heaven, and was made Man, suffered on the Cross, and was buried, and by His glorious Resurrection and Ascension opened the Kingdom of Heaven to all believers, WE come before Thee entreating Thy mercy, yet rejoicing in Thy goodness; and we implore Thy pardon of sin while glorifying Thee for that mysterious, compassionate work of divine love which sacrificed the innocent for the guilty, and, in the fulness of time, gave Christ to die for the ungodly, reconciling the world unto Thyself, and remembering no more the great and fearful transgression.

O Lord, when, by the death and sacrifice of that beloved SON in whom Thou wast well pleased, Thou didst save and redeem those for whom He now pleads and intercedes at the right hand of Thy Majesty, Thou didst, also, require of all who should name the NAME of JESUS that they should die unto sin

and rise again unto righteousness, and worship Thee in spirit and in truth: Thy will be done.

Give us grace to conquer all evil, even as our Lord and Saviour overcame death; and may we walk in newness of life; dead, indeed, unto sin, but alive unto Thee, through Him with whom we hope to live hereafter and behold Thy glory.

Cherishing this happy and holy hope, may it be the desire of our hearts to obey and worship Thee with the adoration of sincerity and grateful love; blessing Thee for the offered means of grace and help in all our spiritual needs, and for the precious promise of that glory which is to be the portion and reward, for our Saviour's sake, in another and better world, of fruitful faith and persevering religious obedience.

O holy Father, set our affections on things above, where Christ is over all, blessed for ever; and by Thy sanctifying Spirit lift up our grateful and repentant

hearts to Thyself, through Him who is our life and our salvation, and to whom, with Thee, O Father, and Thee, O Holy Spirit, be ascribed, as is most due, honour, glory, might, majesty, and dominion for evermore. AMEN.

ASCENSION DAY.

ALMIGHTY GOD, into whose eternal glory our adorable Lord and Saviour did as on this day return, when, with that soul and body with which He rose from the dead, He ascended from BETHANY on Earth to sit at the right hand of Thy throne in HEAVEN: UNTO Thee we lift up our prayers, thanksgivings, and praises; beseeching Thee to create and make in us pure and grateful hearts, with grace to understand and adore the merciful goodness which ordained that the voice of the once crucified and now glorified JESUS should be always heard speaking

in our cause, and asking Thee to grant, for His own blessed sake, our humble prayers and petitions.

O holy Father, sanctify unto us the blessed confidence that, as Thy well-beloved Son ascended into the Heaven of Heavens in our human form and nature, so also shall we, though we be but dust and ashes, be received into those many mansions where He is gone to prepare a place for all who depart this life in the faith and fear of God.

There may our treasure be; there our hearts, and hopes, and affections also; leading us to know and feel that all our endeavours in this world should be to prepare for eternal life in the presence of our Saviour's glory.

And this may we do by striving, steadfast obedience, looking unto Heaven, and to the Author and Finisher of our faith, that where the eyes of the Apostles were forced to leave Him, thither our thoughts may follow Him.

May we, when we draw nigh to Thee, O God, with heartfelt repentance, be encouraged to hope for forgiveness, through the same Jesus our Redeemer graciously pleading for us.

May we, in all our weakness and errors, rely on Him who took upon Himself our nature, and is ever ready to guide and teach the humble in spirit, and is mighty to save the faithful that devoutly trust in Him.

In all our troubles, trials, and sufferings may we seek comfort from Him who is touched with a sense of our infirmities, and pitieth them that fear Him.

And, knowing in whom we have believed, may we evermore come boldly to that throne of grace whereunto, O Lord Christ, Thou didst ascend, and whence Thou grantest mercy and help in time of need to all Thy faithful people, who ascribe to Thee, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, praise, glory, and dominion, now and everlastingly. AMEN.

OUR FATHER, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. AMEN.

THE God of all Peace be with us! The Lord of all Mercy and Love lift up the light of His countenance upon us, and bless us evermore. AMEN.

WHITSUNDAY.

TO BE USED BEFORE THE PRAYER FOR SUNDAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY LORD, who knowing all things, knowest the many needs both of the body and the soul, and in Thine abundant goodness and mercy dost provide not only for the support of our bodily exist-

ence from day to day, but, also, for the cherishing of spiritual life in the inner Man, Vouchsafe to grant us that grace and assistance from above whereby Thy Holy Spirit supplieth our want of saving knowledge,—enlighteneth our ignorance, and strengtheneth us in our weakness.

We confess our many blameable infirmities, negligence, and ignorance, whereby our walk in the path of duty is hindered and our transgressions are increased; and we pray that Thou wilt grant that Heavenly guidance which may save us from error, self-deceit, and sin —that Thy Holy Spirit, the Sanctifier and Comforter, may abide with us and be *our* support in all the chances and changes of this mortal life, as He rested upon Thine apostles and first disciples, to guide them into all truth, and to comfort their souls under temptations and trials.

In the moment of spiritual danger, in suffering or in sorrow, when the arm of

flesh can bring no aid; in sickness or adversity; on the bed of languishing, and in the hour of Death itself, may the Spirit of the Lord inspire us with Christian patience, hope, and resignation.

And by this heavenly help may we gain a right understanding of Thy holy Word, O God, when we study it ourselves, or hear it from the lips of others. Thus taught and thus enlightened may it be our desire to live according to our knowledge, and to gain all that consolation which Thou givest through Thy good Spirit to those who humbly draw nigh unto Thee.

Thus may we be led by the Wisdom which is from above, and in all dutiful and devout obedience enjoy that peace which the Lord and Giver of Life in the soul alone can grant; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

TRINITY SUNDAY.

TO BE USED AFTER THE PRAYER FOR SUNDAY MORNING.

O God our Creator, maker of Heaven and Earth, who didst form Man from the dust, and in the infinity of Thy goodness didst bestow upon him the glorious gift of Reason, and many exceedingly excellent powers of mind and body, wherewith he might serve, worship, and glorify Thee, unto Thee we give all honour, thanksgiving, and praise.

O God our Saviour, the one only Atonement for Man's sin—the only Intercessor to plead on his behalf, and to obtain mercy and forgiveness: O Thou that sittest at the right hand of God, in the glory of the Father, unto Thee we give all honour, thanksgiving, and praise.

O God the Holy Spirit, to whom all worship and glory are due, Thou Sanc-

tifier and Comforter of the immortal soul, the Lord and Giver of Life in Christ Jesus; By whose only inspiration we think and desire that which is good, and by whose divine counsels we are led into every right way, and cease to walk after the Flesh, unto Thee we give all honour, thanksgiving, and praise.

Holy Lord, our Creator, have mercy upon us!

Holy Christ, our Saviour, have mercy upon us!

Holy Lord, our Sanctifier, have mercy upon us!

AMEN.

HARRILD, PRINTER, LONDON.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR.

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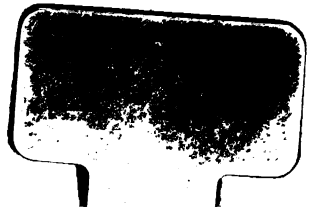
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